

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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DATE: April 25, 2011
TO: I-70 East PACT
FROM: Don Hunt, CDOT
RE: I-70 East Funding



Several questions have come up regarding potential funding for the I-70 East project. I want to document the current funding status so that PACT members have consistent information.

The Colorado Transportation Commission recently inquired about the status of the I-70 East environmental process. The Commission (acting as the Bridge Enterprise Board) is currently examining additional projects for FASTER (SB09-108) bridge safety funding. The Commission has already committed \$300 million to 47 bridge construction projects in the first round of FASTER funding. Over the next 24 months, the Commission will prioritize new bridge projects for up to an additional \$400 million in funding.

The Commission continues to place a high priority on the future replacement of the I-70 Viaduct. If a preferred alternative for I-70 East is identified by the end of this summer, it is probable that the Commission would fund a significant first phase of the project. Through bonding, project funds could be made available about as quickly as the first phase could be designed.

With a phased preferred alternative, additional increments of the project could be built over time with conventional highway funds as available. Once a preferred alternative is identified, managed lanes will also be evaluated as a means to provide enhanced operations and a potential revenue source for the project.